Form 10-300 (July 1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Maryland county Baltimore FOR NPS USE ONLY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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The Gatehouse:

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THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF

The Gatehouse of the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital in Towson, Maryland, was designed by Thomas and James M. Dixon of Baltimore in 1860 and constructed by John L. Gittier, builder. It is a symmetrical two-story structure in the Tudor Revival Style. Constructed of field stone, it has a large central open archway through which vehicles pass. Above the arch is a steep gable roof with deep decorated bargeboards sheltering three lancet windows that light the second floor space. Flanking the central section are two one-and-a-half story wings, one bay wide, with exaggerated dormer windows, decorated bargeboards, and one lancet window. The rear elevation of these wings exterd past the central section making a U-shaped structure in plan. These rear wings do not have dormers but instead have decorated cross gables. Each wing has one interior chimney. The Gatehouse plan provides for two separate cottage units, one on either side of the archway.

Western Division ("A" Building) Eastern Division ("B" Building):

The two immense brick buildings that compose the Calvert Vaux design for the hospital were built to accommodate men in one and women in the other. These three-and-one-half story structures each with a six story tower are virtual mirror images of each other. They are 360 feet long and were originally separated by a 100 foot wide courtyard. In 1971 this space was filled in by the New Central Building which, though modern in design, is in harmony with the Vaux work.

Each of the Vaux buildings are roughly T-shaped in plan, with many cross gables, oriel windows, towers, and setbacks. A hybrid of the English Norman and the Italianate styles, the buildings have very spare decoration and derive their impressive dignity and impact from the advancing and receding planes of the walls and the complex juxtaposition of the roof forms. The interior arrangement of the two buildings represents a major step forward in the planning of mental institutions.

"In the old almshouses the sick-poor, orphaned-poor, aged-poor, mentally disturbed, retarded, and idiots had been housed together; the new system fostered the beginnings of psychiatric classification. The most disturbed patients were placed in the wing farthest removed from the offices, with the less disturbed patients next, and convalescent individuals closest to the reception rooms and library. The second floor duplicated the first, and the third floor and the

TATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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The Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital in Towson, Maryland, has been for over a century one of the leading private hospitals in the country devoted to the care and treatment of the mentally ill.

The architecture of the two principal buildings of the hospital, built from 1862 to 1891 and known originally as the Western Division and the Eastern Division, were designed by the nationally prominent architect Calvert Vaux who also designed most of the buildings in Central Park, New York. These two buildings are virtual mirror images of each other and together with their twin towers present an impressive aspect over 800 feet long. The dramatic appearance of these Norman Revival buildings is, however, secondary to their functional design which marked a milestone in psychiatric planning by separating patients according to the nature of their illness, and attempting to create for each category a pleasant, self-contained, non-institutional environment.

The Gatehouse for the hospital was designed in 1860 by Baltimore architects Thomas and James M. Dixon. This quaint Tudor Revival double cottage, located at the Charles Street Avenue entrance to the hospital, was the first building to be built and has become familiar to generations of passersby. It is used by the hospital as their symbol and as a result they requested National Historic Landmark evaluation of it alone. However, familiarity cannot be substituted for architectural excellence and the Gatehouse, for all its charm, is in no way exceptional.

History

(abridged in part from the 1966-1967 Annual Report of the Hospital)

The Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital, Towson, Maryland, had its beginning in a bequest made by Moses Sheppard (1775-1857), a Baltimore Quaker merchant, for the establishment of an experimental institution

--continued on Form 10-300a--

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Forbush, Rliss. The Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital. Philadelphia: 1971.

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(Number al! entries) Shepperd and Enoch Pratt Hospital: First Floor Plan "A" Building MALE DEPAITMENT SHEPPARD ASYLUM BALTIMORE, MP C. Vaux, Architect, in minimitar with D.T. Hrown, M.D.

First Floor Plan: Western Division, 1891.

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7. DESCRIPTION (1)

Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital and Gate House

smaller fourth floor were reserved for nurses and the other employees. In each division there were approximately fifty rooms on the top two floors. The ground floor of each section contained seventy-five rooms. Patients' bedrooms averaged ten by fourteen feet, the parlors eithteen by thirty-two feet, and the sun rooms eight by twenty feet. Corridors were ten feet wide."

8. SIGNIFICANCE

"to carry forward and improve the ameliorated system of treatment of the insane, irrespective of expense." In 1853 a Charter was enacted by the Maryland Legislature to establish the Sheppard Asylum. In 1857, at his death, Moses Sheppard left \$571,440 to the Sheppard Asylum. In 1860, the first building, the Gatehouse, was erected at the entrance on Charles Street Avenue. As funds became available from the estate, the hospital was built over the next thirty-three years. On November 25, 1891, the "A" and "B" Buildings were opened to receive patients. In 1896 a bequest was made to the hospital by Enoch Pratt. He requested that his name be used and by an Act of the Maryland Legislature the Sheppard Asylum became the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital.

The architectural history of the Gatehouse and of the hospital buildings is somewhat complex. In 1858, the Trustees of the Sheppard bequest organized an architectural competition for the hospital design. "A Baltimore firm, Thomas and James M. Dixon won the \$350 prize for the best of twenty-one designs submitted for the main building. Because of his recent services as Superintendent of the newly constructed Bloomingdale Hospital at White Plains, New York, third place winner, Dr. D. Tilden Brown was chosen as chief consultant. Calvert Vaux of New York City was named associate architect. In general the plans, as developed, followed closely the design suggested by Dr. Robert Kirkbridge of the Pennsylvania Hospital, which were published in the Journal of Insanity and had been studied by the founder."²

In May 1860, the Gatehouse was constructed. This first building was the work of the Thomas and James M. Dixon firm in Baltimore. Original drawings exist for a preliminary design for a Gate Lodge suggestive of the actual building constructed but less ambitious.

^{1.} Bliss Forbush, The Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital, 1853-1970 (Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott Co., 1971) pp. 24-25.

^{2.} Ibid, pp. 21-22.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital and Gate House

The Trustees adopted plans for the main hospital buildings in 1860. They called for two buildings 360 feet long, mirror images of each other separated by a space of 100 feet. These buildings, called the Western Division ("A" Building) and the Eastern Division ("B" Building), were respectively for male and female patients. Construction started in 1862 and progressed in fits and starts over the next 29 years. "A" Building was under roof in 1871, "B" Building was completed in 1891.

The original drawings for "A" Building showing floor plans and sections are signed "Calvert Vaux, Architect, 110 Broadway, N.Y."

They are much more highly developed than those for the Gatehouse and suggest that the Dixon firm left the final design and working drawings entirely to Vaux. An onsite evaluation of the quality of the Vaux hospital buildings compared to the Dixon Gatehouse tends to bear this observation out.

-Form 10-300s (July 1969)

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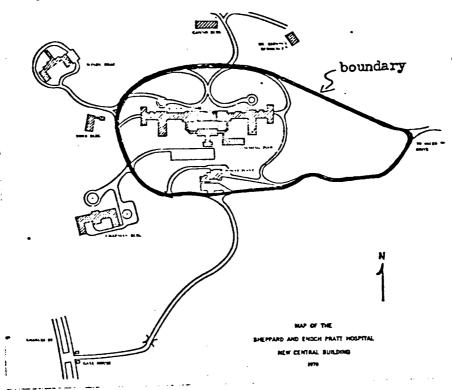
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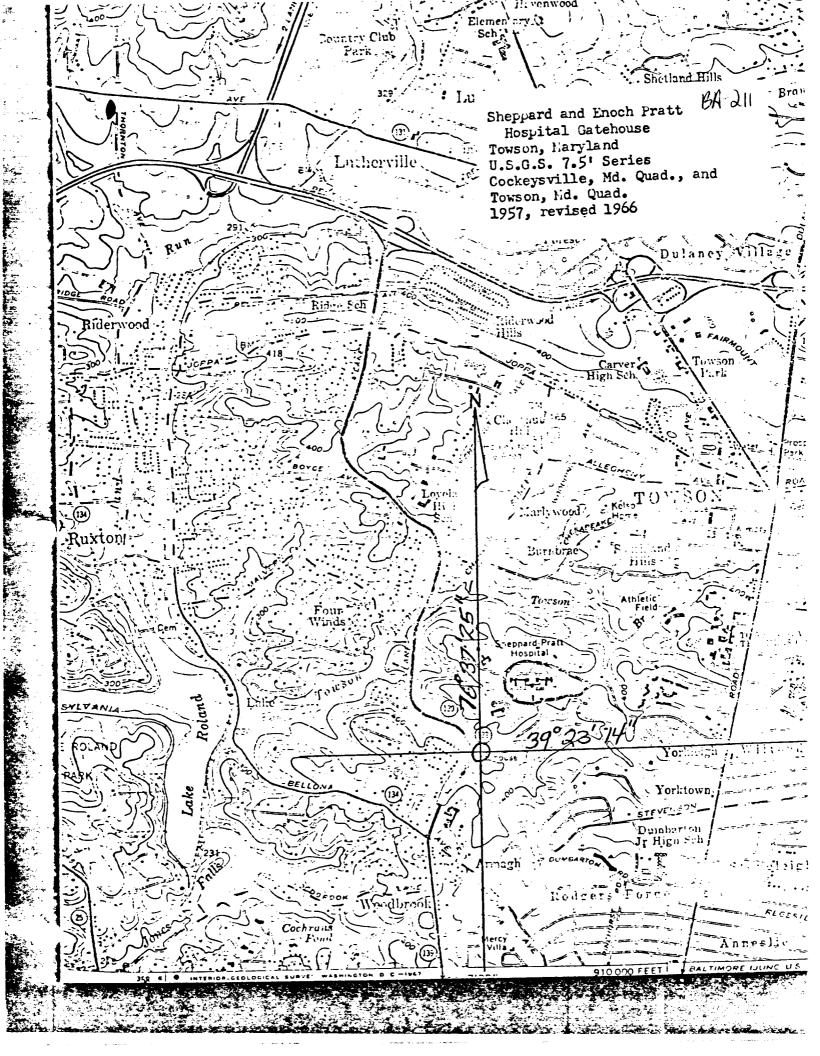
Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital property description:

Bounded by hospital roads forming a rough oval around "A" and "B" Buildings and the power plant. On the south following a hospital road which is south of the power plant and north of the Chapman Building, on the west following the hospital road between the Ford Building and "A" Building, on the north following a hospital road between the "A" and "B" Building complex and the Casino Building and Dr. Gibson's residence, to an exit to Osler Drive.

(see detailed Map below)



From Bliss Forbush, The Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital, 1353-1970 (Philadelphia, J. 3. Lippincott Co., 1971) P. 239.



SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTO IN APPLIES ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Baltimore Co.

WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES

TOWN VICINITY Dist. IX STREET NO. YOTH Rd.

original owner
original use
present owner Greater Balt. Med.
present use Center & St. Jos.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY BA - 272 211

1862

2. NAME Sheppard-Pratt Hospitas
Building

DATE OR PERIOD STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Moses Sheppard left \$571,440 to be used for the construction of two hospital buildings, on 375 acres of land. The construction was interrupted by the Civil War and the buildings were not completed until 1891. In 1896 Enoch Pratt left an endowment of \$1,500,000 to the hospital. Recently some of the land was sold to the Greater Baltimore Medical Center and St. Joseph's Hospital.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered

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6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Authar, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

7. PHOTOGRAPH

P. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER
Baltimore Co. Hist. Soc.
Agriculture Bldg.
Texas, Md.

| Journal HABS Appear

DATE OF RECORD March 20, 1968

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